



WASHINGTON, DC

October 29, 2015

STEPHEN E. CORAN
202.416.6744
SCORAN@LERMANSENTER.COM

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Skybeam, LLC
Rural Broadband Experiment Interim Report
WC Docket No. 14-259**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Skybeam, LLC ("Skybeam") and consistent with the Commission's requirements and guidance from USAC, attached hereto is Skybeam's interim report for the four (4) Rural Broadband Experiment projects for which Skybeam has received its initial disbursement. Please contact undersigned counsel if there are any questions concerning the attached report.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephen E. Coran', is written over a horizontal line.

Stephen E. Coran
Counsel to Skybeam, LLC

Enclosure

cc: HCcerts@usac.org
Heidi Lankau

Skybeam, LLC
Rural Broadband Experiment Interim Report
FCC Docket No. 14-259

Skybeam, LLC ("Skybeam") submits this Rural Broadband Experiment ("RBE") Interim Report filed for the four Study Area Codes ("SACs") listed below.¹ In each case, Skybeam received initial funding disbursement information in this Report is accurate as of September 30, 2015, consistent with the Commission's requirements.

SAC	State	BID ID	Category
346116	IL	3	1
346117	IL	7	1
416118	KS	8	1
446119	TX	2	1

Project Status

On August 30, 2015, Skybeam received the first disbursements of RBE support for the following projects: Marion, Kansas (SAC 416118); Manville, Illinois (SAC 346117); Coal City, Illinois (SAC 346116); and Burton, Texas (SAC 446119). As of September 30, 2015, no other funding had been distributed.

Skybeam has taken the following steps to promote the RBE for the subject project locations listed above:

- On June 10, 2015, Skybeam appointed a project manager with primary responsibility of managing Skybeam's RBE projects.
- Skybeam completed an internal review of FCC reporting and project requirements with technical and marketing teams.
- Skybeam reviewed provisional RF technical design for each SAC and completed a detailed second iteration of RF technical design plans for each SAC. This includes (a) prospective radio tower and tower structure candidate locations, and (b) spectrum and technology assessments for each area.

¹ See *Public Notice*, "Rural Broadband Experiment Support Authorized for Ten Winning Bids for Skybeam, LLC, Consolidated Communications Networks, Inc., Delta Communications LLC, and Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative, Inc., WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-259, DA 15-897 (rel. Aug. 7, 2015). The Wireline Competition Bureau subsequently announced that it was ready to authorize Skybeam for six additional projects, but has not authorized Skybeam for support and Skybeam has not received funding for such projects. See *Public Notice*, "Wireline Competition Bureau Announces rural Broadband Experiments Support for 3 Provisionally Selected Bids Ready to be Authorized," WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-259, DA 15-1092 (rel. Sept. 29, 2015). Accordingly, because Skybeam is not yet a recipient of RBE support for these six additional projects, it is not required to submit an interim report for such projects as of November 1, 2015.

- Skybeam initiated a new network technology deployment assessment project in one of its existing non-RBE markets, with the intention of leveraging this new network technology to RBE projects pending successful technical and operational evaluation.
- Skybeam initiated a multi-vendor RFP process for candidate tower or tower structures, and is in the process of evaluating vendor responses for suitability for RBE project deployments.
- Skybeam is working to refine and develop more detailed build-out and implementation plans for each SAC that will meet or exceed FCC service coverage goals within the required milestones.
- Skybeam initiated a preliminary survey of candidate towers in each of the four SACs using field teams to evaluate candidate towers suitability for RBE deployment.

Locations Served

Skybeam has not deployed any broadband or voice services in any of the four SACs listed above. Because Skybeam only received partial funding disbursements for four of the RBE projects on August 30, 2015, it has not had sufficient time to deploy service. The attached Excel spreadsheet provides additional information about each of the projects. At this time, longitude and latitude information is not available.

Public Service Obligations

No locations have been constructed. Accordingly, no certification concerning public service obligations or latency is required at this time.

SKYBEAM, LLC

By:


Jeff Koller, Chief Development Officer

Date

10/27/15

SAC	State	BID ID	Category	Census Block	Latitude	Longitude	Is this a newly served location? (Y/N)
346116 IL		3	1	357			
346117 IL		7	1	674			
416118 KS		8	1	267			
446119 TX		2	1	201			